Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Alpha-1-Antitrypsin Deficiency (AAT Deficiency or Alpha-1) is a serious genetic disorder associated with liver disease in infants, children, and adults, and lung disease in young adults; and,

Whereas, Alpha-1 is the most common genetic disease for which liver transplants are performed in children, and can lead to liver failure at anytime in life; and,

Whereas, 100,000 U.S. citizens are estimated to suffer Alpha-1, and an estimated 25 million people in the U.S. carry a single deficient gene that causes Alpha-1 and may pass the gene on to their children; and,

Whereas, Alpha-1 was identified in 1963 and is often misdiagnosed and under diagnosed with fewer than 10 percent of those predicted to have Alpha-1 being accurately diagnosed; and,

Whereas, A need has been identified to increase awareness and detection of this serious hereditary and misdiagnosed disorder:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim of May 2005 as

ALPHA-1 AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-first Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State